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## **Sen. Stamas working on legislation to protect Michigan residents from automotive ‘black boxes’**

**LANSING** – Legislation is being drafted in the Senate to help ease the privacy concerns of Michigan motorists from “black boxes” being installed in new vehicles which record speed, braking and seat belt usage, announced Sen. Tony Stamas, R-Midland.

“We’ve been working on this issue for some time now,” Stamas said. “Personal privacy is a top priority for me.”

Known as event data recorders, the devices also can track engine revolutions per minute and other information that can be used to understand why accidents occur.

Currently, Stamas is working on legislation to amend the Revised Judicature Act, Code of Criminal Procedure and the Insurance Code to prohibit discovery of information retained in event data recorders for use in civil proceedings, criminal proceedings and used to establish insurance rates.

According to the *Detroit News*, about two-thirds of new vehicles, including those built by General Motors Corp. and Ford Motor Co., come equipped with event data recorders – “black boxes” that can tell tales even after a car has been totaled.

“I will be introducing legislation in the very near future to help protect motorists,” Stamas said. “The data from these devices is extremely sensitive. While there are legitimate uses for these devices, the citizens of this state must have the assurance of knowing exactly who has access to this data and for what purposes it can be used.”

Stamas’ legislation will be introduced in the upcoming weeks.

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